

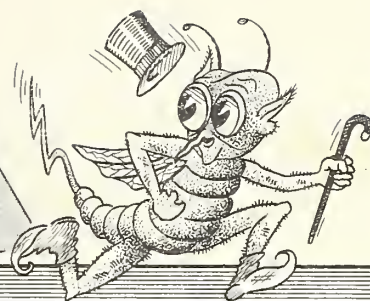
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REGION ONE

Missoula, Montana

October 1, 1953

No. 6

CLIFF VISITS SPRUCE JOBS - On September 21, Edward P. Cliff, assistant chief of the Forest Service, conferred in Missoula with Regional Forester Hanson and members of the staffs of engineering and timber management. The spruce access road program and proposed trap tree plans were the principal subjects discussed. James C. Evenden of the Bureau of Entomology took part in the discussions. The late afternoon of the same day Mr. Cliff was shown roads and spruce stands in the vicinity of Powell Ranger Station on the Lolo. The next two days were spent on the Flathead and Kootenai. He had expected to see more spruce areas but he had to start back to Washington, D. C., the evening of September 23. During his visit to spruce access roads and spruce sales Mr. Cliff saw a number of very encouraging evidences of road construction and logging progress.

SAFETY RECORD COMMENDED - Northern Region and Station Safety News of September 14 has these encouraging words: "Despite a fast moving program carried out under generally hazardous conditions, the spruce bark beetle project has compiled a commendable safety record ----- the relatively small number of injury reports from this important activity is most encouraging."

SCORE BOARD - INFESTED SPRUCE LOGGED

Forest (From National Forest Land)	1952 Production Year (July 1, 1952 - June 30, 1953) Million Board Feet	1953 Production Year July 1, 1952 to September 12) Million Board Feet	LAST 2 WEEKS (Sept. 13 to Sept. 26) Million Board Feet
Cabinet	0.8	1.0	0.4
Clearwater	0	0	0
Flathead	2.4	2.6	0.5
Kaniksu	6.5	7.3	1.0
Kootenai	57.7	18.3	6.2
Lolo	1.7	5.7	2.1
St. Joe	7.2	7.1	2.6
Subtotal	76.3	42.0	12.8
<u>All Other Ownerships</u>	18.7	16.5	4.3
GRAND TOTALS	95.0	58.5	17.1

LOLO NEWS - Infested spruce timber is rolling out of the Lolo at the rate of about 200,000 board feet per day with prospects of an increase as new sales get underway. The Tree Farmers are taking about 20 truckloads a day from the Packers Meadow area. Until recently this has been from national forest lands but now operations have progressed to Northern Pacific Railway Company lands which will produce the bulk of infested spruce for the next few weeks. The main haul road is being graveled to make hauling possible in wet weather.

Johnny Wilson and crew recently finished operational surveys in the Powell District. This job started last spring with men traveling to work in a weasel and cruising on snowshoes. They cruised spruce types on about 40,000 acres and they guesstimate they cruised about a half billion feet of spruce. Compilation, which has been keeping pace with field work, will be finished soon for use in making beetle control sales.

Four million feet of timber, 75 percent spruce, is cruised and ready for sale in the Upper East Fork of Lolo Creek. Prospective purchasers are now looking the area over. The Northern Pacific Railway Company has found a logger to take an isolated spruce stand nearby in this drainage in the coordinated control effort.

The Anaconda Copper Mining Company is logging spruce from national forest lands in Placid, State Line and Lee Creeks, and has recently bought the Granite Creek chance under emergency sale procedure. They will build roads in Granite Creek this fall and log next spring. In addition to this they are moving infested spruce from their own and other private land in Lolo Creek and the Placid Lake area. Contracts have been awarded and work has commenced on all access roads planned for this year on the Lolo. Four miles of clearing are completed on Squaw Creek, Papoose Creek and Crooked Fork roads are just getting underway. Contractors plan to work until weather shuts them out.

Ranger Beaubier and crew touched off thirty acres of spruce slash and beetles on September 23 on Lost Park Creek. The fire burned well and stopped where it was supposed to. A light rain came a few hours after the touchoff to help make this an actual controlled burn.

Andy Arvish and Dave Scott traveled into Torino Gulch to look at trap trees preparatory to chemical treatment. This week Arvish is heading a crew on the spraying job.

WHOPPER ABOUT A WHOOPER - Pack River Lumber Company's house organ "Chip-Chat" tells about crossing a pilcated woodpecker with a talking parrot to produce a "Whooper." Their whoopers eat beetle larvae on a cracker. The whoopers are adept at making beetle surveys. A special two-way whooper-talkie radio is strapped to the back of each bird. This enables the whoopers to report the location of infestations as they go about over the spruce forests eating beetles. So do not be surprised if you hear something like this on your radio: "Whooper No. 3 calling BEPQ, Coeur d'Alene. Now eating spruce beetles in SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 6, T. 36 N., R. 24 W. That is all."

BUGS BEAR, Smokey's cousin, is busy organizing bears to eat beetles to help control the spruce bark beetle epidemic. The bears are getting fat doing this public service. Bugs Bear sends this message to his fans, "Yum! Yum! Yum!"

. KOOTENAI ITEMS - About 1,600 trap trees will have been chemically treated when this work is completed September 28. In addition there may be a few isolated trees to treat later around areas logged to control the beetles. Trap trees have been treated in the following compartments: Wigwam, Rock, Wolf, Elk, Dodge and Young Creeks and LaFoe Lake. The Upper West Fork of the Yaak project is three-quarters completed. Ted Navratil and John Aemisegger were in charge of the trap tree spraying on Wigwam Creek. Presley Brinegar heads up the Upper West Fork job. Bud Mitchell captained the Fisher River team.

Another carnivorous squirrel was observed to be eating beetle larvae by Brinegar in the Upper West Fork of the Yaak. Most of the Kootenai personnel take puffed wheat in preference to larvae for everyday eating. (The typist says, "No more puffed wheat for breakfast for me.")

Operational surveys are getting into full swing. De Smith schedules a weekly survey training school to keep the strength of survey crews up to requirements. De estimates that he has trained 18 percent of the total Kootenai personnel for survey work since July 1. At the present date about 91 percent of those trained have returned to school. Nine detailers from other forests are now either on the Kootenai, en route or preparing to come as replacements for survey crew members. This assistance is greatly needed and appreciated.

. The Sutton Ridge sale of 5,500,000 board feet of spruce to J. Neils Lumber Company is 85 percent cut out at present. Neils will practically complete this job before moving to the Little North Fork of Big Creek. The development of the Little North Fork is progressing rapidly in anticipation of logging. The trees to be cut are marked and some of the cat roads have been built.

Thurman Gwynn has been in charge of the 25-man brush crew on the Sutton Ridge sale. They are piling slash along roads and in other areas of heavy concentrations.

Frank Bolles and Sam Norton have been supervising the chemical treatment of trap trees on Young Creek. Adrian Wenner and his crew completed the post-flight survey of the same area.

All the spruce logs coming to the landing are scaled by Tom Smith and Art Anderson despite the best efforts of the unloader, the switch engineer and the loading crew. Art is still looking for the new scale sticks shipped air freight three weeks ago. He asks each morning if the pack string with the sticks has arrived.

On Wigwam Creek, Ted Navratil, recently from the Troy District, has had ample opportunity to get acquainted with the community life of a Fortine District spruce beetle. Ted was assisted by John Aemisegger. Their 15-man crew broke the life cycle of many thousands of spruce beetles in more than 900 trap trees. They were supplied by packers B. Davis and K. Taylor and their 14 mules. (The Kootenai reporter regretted that he was unable to furnish the names of the 14 mules in order to complete the story in the best journalistic manner.)

. SPRUCE BULLETINS ARE READY - I. V. Anderson, Chief of the Forest Utilization Service at the NRM Station, can now supply copies of the following publications on the properties and uses of Engelmann spruce: "Use of Engelmann Spruce for House Construction", "Engelmann Spruce and Its Preservative Treatment for Ties and Mine Timbers", and "Engelmann Spruce for Pulp and Paper Products."

